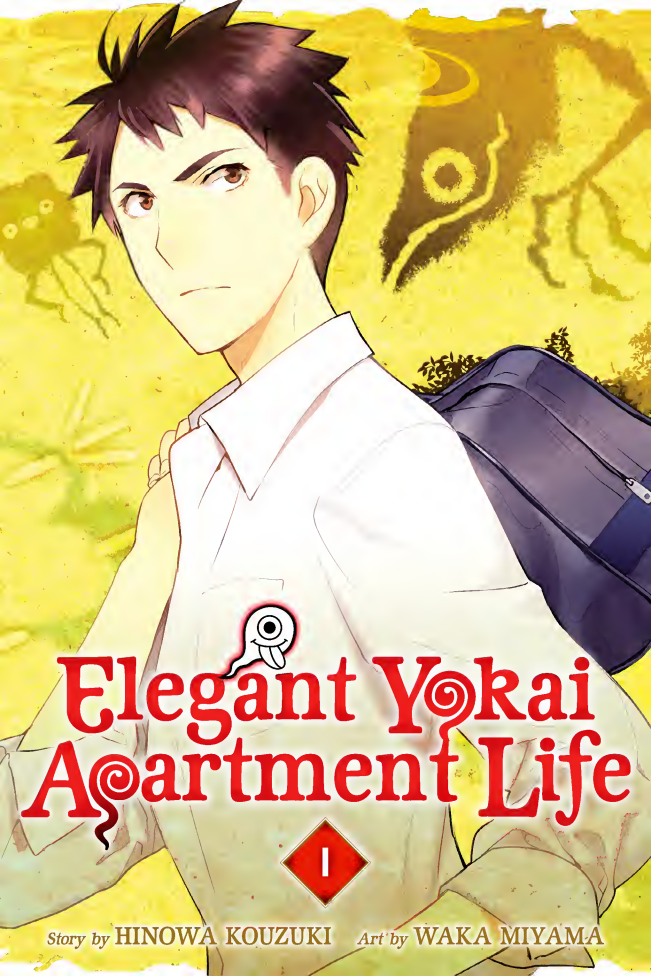




Elegant Yokai Apartment Life

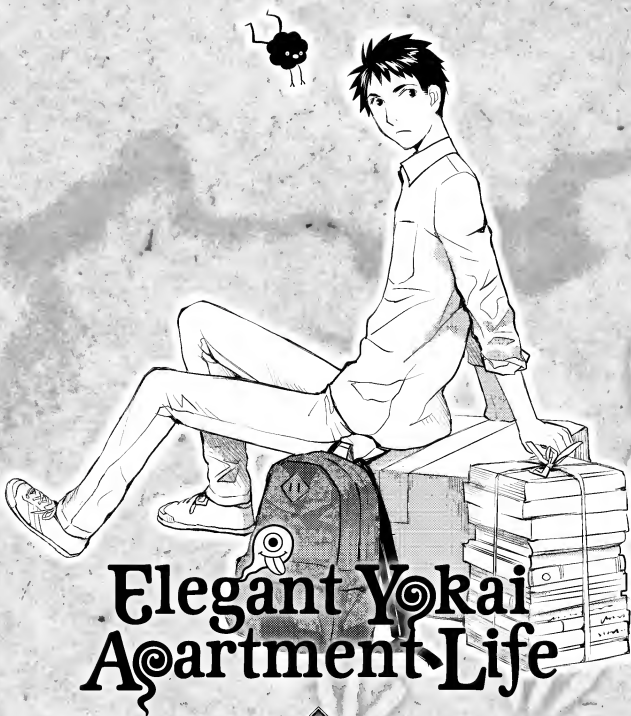


Story by HINOWA KOUZUKI Art by WAKA MIYAMA



The Cast of *Elegant Yokai Apartment Life*





Elegant Yokai Apartment Life



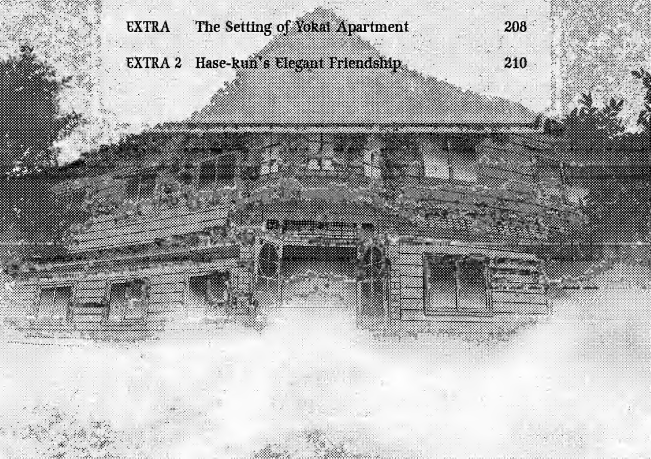
Story by HINOWA KOUZUKI Art by WAKA MIYAMA

Elegant Yokai Apartment Life



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HERE
OUGHTA
DO.



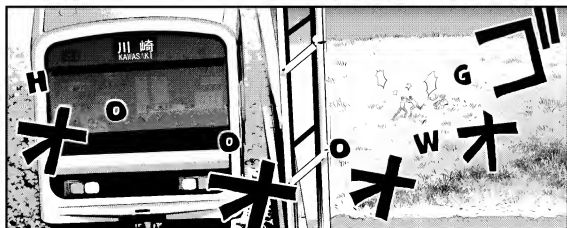
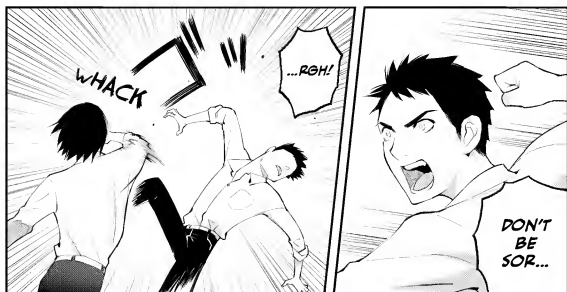
LIKE-
WISE.

I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO DUKE
IT OUT
WITH YOU,
INABA.

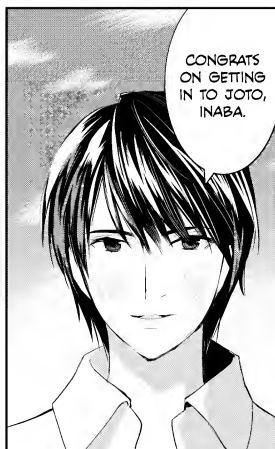


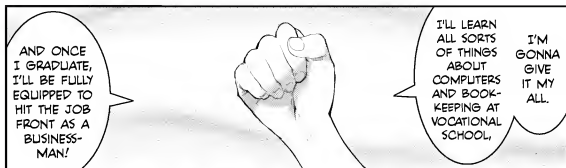
ALL
RIGHT.

I'VE BEEN
WAITING A
LONG TIME
TO BEAT
YOUR FACE
IN, HASE!











YOU
SURE
YOU'LL
BE
OKAY?



'COURSE!

THIS SPRING,
I, YUSHI
INABA, MADE
IT INTO JOTO
VOCATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL.

IN SPRING
OF MY FIRST
YEAR OF
MIDDLE
SCHOOL...

...BOTH
OF MY
PARENTS
DIED IN
A CAR
ACCIDENT.



I WAS
TAKEN IN
BY MY
UNCLE'S
FAMILY.

WHAT
HAPPENED
AFTER
THAT IS
NOTHING
UNUSUAL.



IT CAN'T
HAVE BEEN
EASY FOR
MY AUNT
AND UNCLE
TO HAVE A
SUDDEN
ADDITION TO
THE FAMILY.

SINCE MY
FAMILY WAS
A MODEST
WHITE-COLLAR
HOUSEHOLD,
THERE WASN'T
ANY SORT OF
INHERITANCE
LEFT FOR ME.





...WAS
WAY MORE
OPPOSED
TO ME
MOVING
IN THAN I
ANTICIPATED.

BESIDES
THAT,

MY
ONE-YEAR
OLDER
COUSIN,
ERIKO...



...I'VE MANAGED
TO GET INTO
THE VOCATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL
OF MY DREAMS,
AND I'LL BE
MOVING INTO
THE DORM!

AND
NOW,
THREE
YEARS
LATER...



I CAN
MOVE
OUT AT
LAST!

THAT'S
RIGHT!



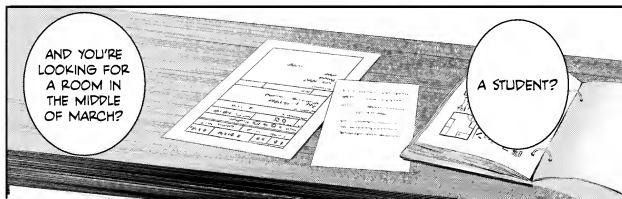
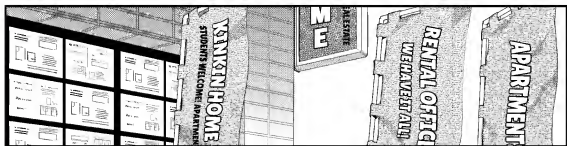
A fire
broke out
at the
student
dorm of
Joto
Vocational
High School
earlier
today...

...which
left the
building
completely
destroyed.



HUH...?







** Approx 500 USD.

* Approx 2-300 USD.





I'M AN
UNDERAGE
STUDENT
WITH NO
PARENTS...

...AND NO
MONEY.



...BUT
IS THERE
REALLY
NOTHING I
CAN DO?

THEY
TELL ME IT
CAN'T BE
HELPED...



INABA?

YOU
SURE
YOU'LL
BE
OKAY,



...AT THE
MERCY OF
OTHERS...

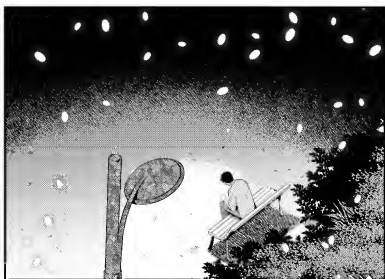
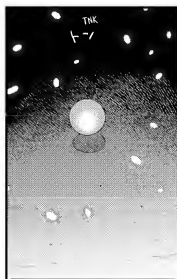
WITH
NO
WAY
OUT.

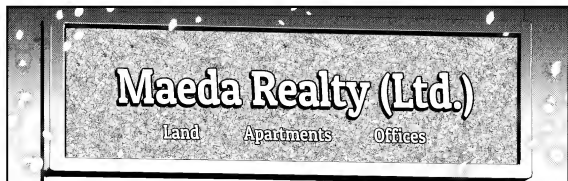
IN THE
END, I'M
STILL
JUST A
POWERLESS
KID...

HOW
COULD
THIS
HAPPEN?

HASE
...



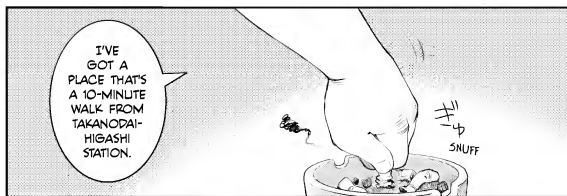






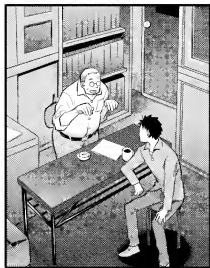
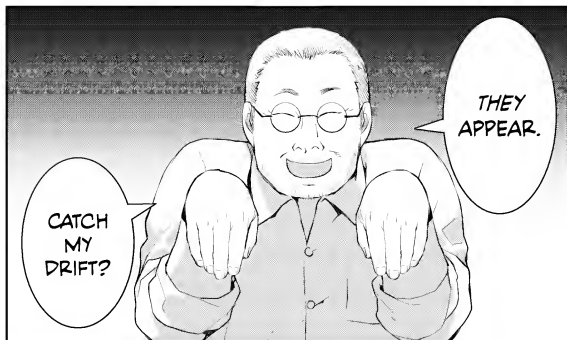
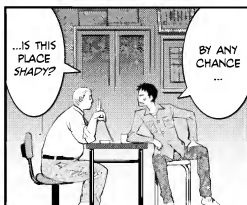






* Approx. 250 USD







I
KNOW!
HOW
ABOUT
THIS?



WHO
KNOWS?
I WONDER
...

...SERI-
OUSLY?



...GHOSTS?

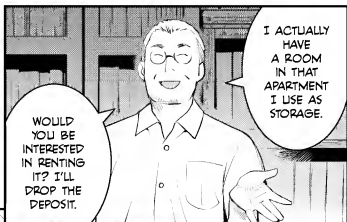
APPEAR?
YOU
MEAN...



YOU JUST
NEED A PLACE
TO LIVE UNTIL
THE DORM
IS REBUILT,
RIGHT?

I
DON'T
THINK
IT'S A
BAD
DEAL

REALLY?!
ARE
YOU
SURE?!



WOULD
YOU BE
INTERESTED
IN RENTING
IT? I'LL
DROP THE
DEPOSIT.

I ACTUALLY
HAVE
A ROOM
IN THAT
APARTMENT
I USE AS
STORAGE.



TH-
THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!

I CAN
MOVE OUT
OF MY
UNCLE'S
HOUSE!



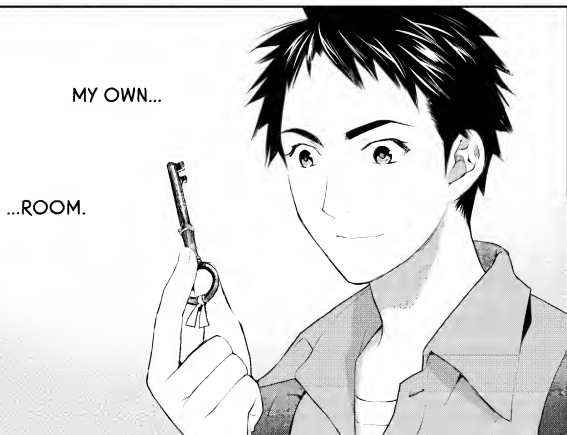
TWEET

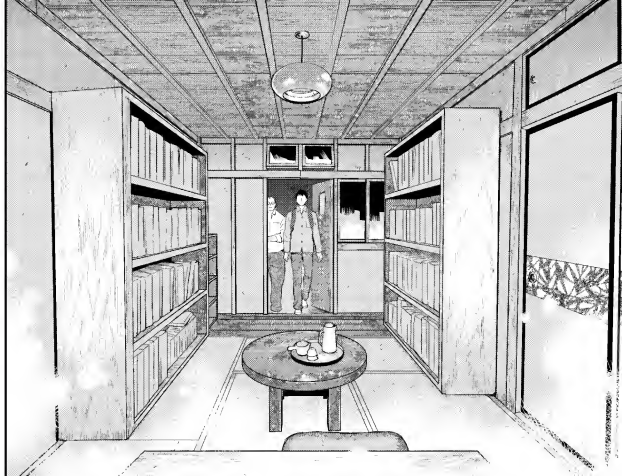
TWEET

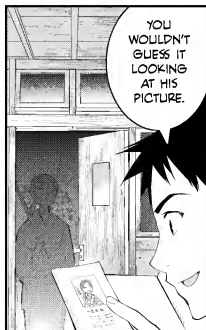
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

















**HEEEY!
MY
NAME'S
AKINE
KUGA!**

**NICE
TO
MEET
YOU!**

**A-
AKINE...
SAN?**

**YEP.
THIS IS
AKINE
KUGA
FROM
ROOM
204.**

**SHE'S A
SECOND-
YEAR AT
TAKANODAI
HIGH AND
IS LIVING ON
HER OWN
LIKE YOU,
YUSHI-KUN.**



**AREN'T
YOU
LONELY?**

**A
GIRL
YOUR
AGE?**

**HUH?
ON HER
OWN?**



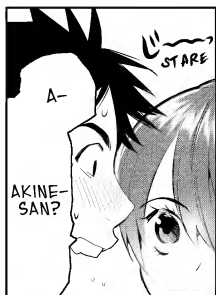
**I HOPE
YOU LIKE
IT HERE,
TOO,
YUSHI-
KUN!**

**LIVING
HERE
IS A
BLAST!**

**NO
WAAAAY!**

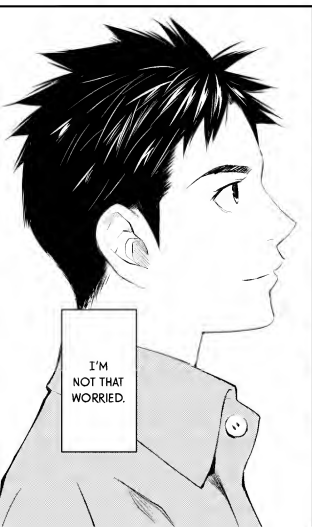
**First
name
basis...**







* A rice cake filled with red bean paste and wrapped with a pickled cherry blossom leaf.



I GET A
SENSE OF
WHAT IT'S
LIKE LIVING
HERE.

You
bet
I do!



I'm
just
kidding.
Want
one?

JUST
LOOKING
AT THESE
TWO,



I'M SURE
EVERY-
THING WILL
BE FINE.

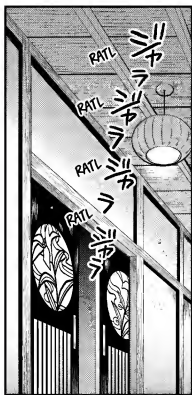


I'M
REALLY
GLAD...

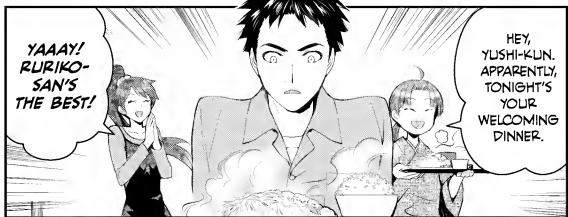
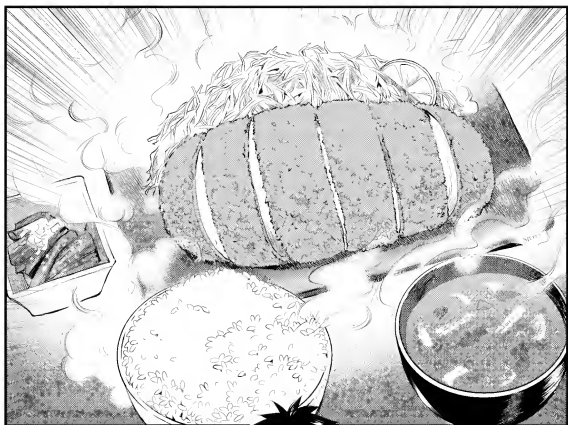
...I
CAME
HERE.



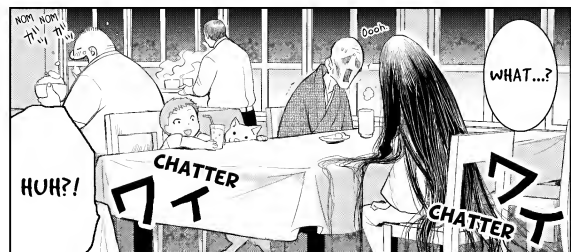


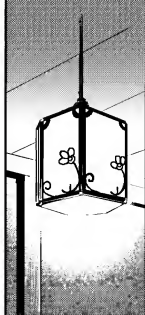














A-
AKINE-
SAN!



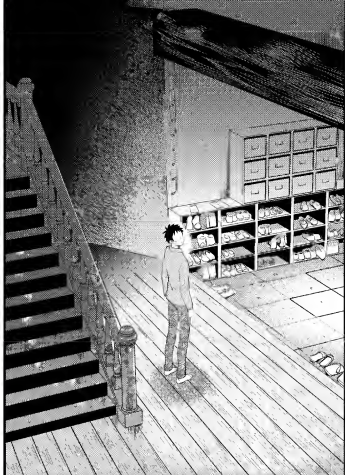
I'M
OFF!

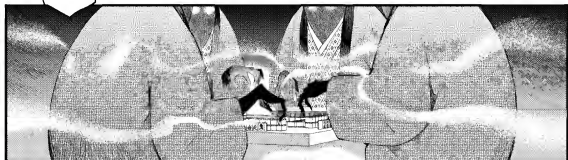


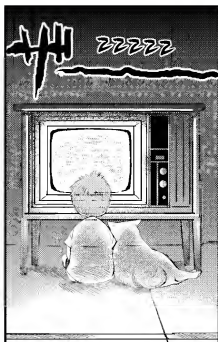
HOW
EXACTLY
...

...AM I
SUPPOSED
TO TAKE
IT EASY...

LIKE
THIS?

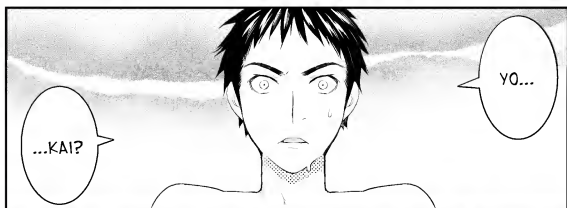






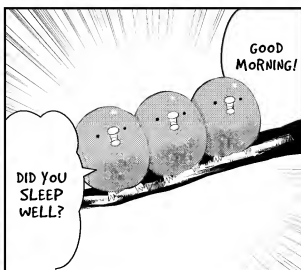




















DON'T
TELL
ME...

...SHE'S
SO
SCARED
SHE CAN'T
MOVE!

AKINE-
SAN!

IT'S
DANGER-
OUS!
RUN!

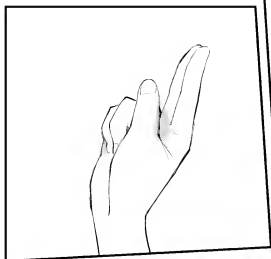
Creep

DAMN
IT...

THAT
SHAKE
THAT
SHAKE

...TCH.

AKINE-
SAN!

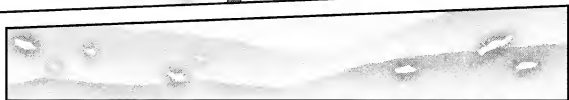




BANISH!

BOOM







PURGE ?

JUST WHO ARE YOU, AKINE-SAN?



I JUST IGNORED HIM, BUT I GUESS HE GOT ATTACHED TO ME.

HE KEPT STARING AT ME BY THE CROSSWALK IN FRONT OF THE STATION.



I GUESS DYING DIDN'T CHANGE HIS WAYS, SO I PURGED HIM.

HE STALKED GIRLS DURING LIFE, TOO.



A-AKINE-SAN? WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

AN EVIL SPIRIT.

WAIT, WHAT ?!

OHH. AN EVIL SPIRIT, HUH?



AN EXORCIST ...?

SOMEONE WHO TAKES CARE OF TROUBLE-SOME SPIRITS.

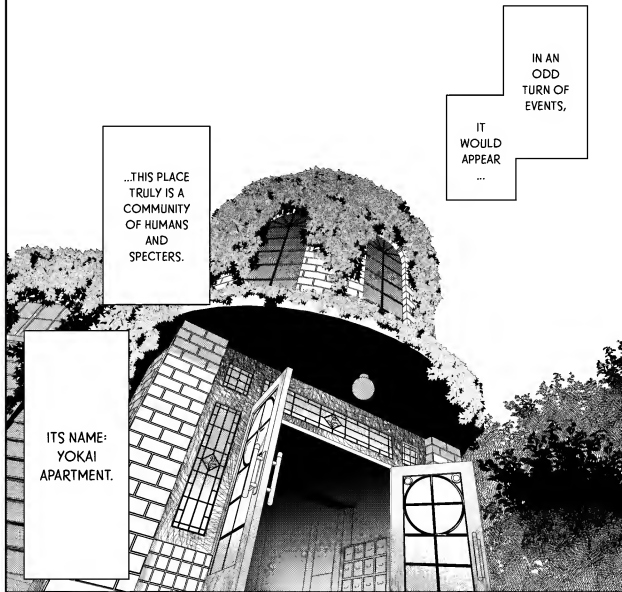


TURN
↳ 3

I'M AN EXORCIST.

DID I FORGET TO MENTION?





...THIS PLACE
TRULY IS A
COMMUNITY
OF HUMANS
AND
SPECTERS.

IN AN
ODD
TURN OF
EVENTS,

IT
WOULD
APPEAR
...

ITS NAME:
YOKAI
APARTMENT.



AND THE
FIRST STEP
TOWARDS
WHICH...

YUSHI
INABA, A
FIRST-YEAR
IN HIGH
SCHOOL.

HIS
DREAM, TO
BECOME AN
INDEPENDENT
WORKING
ADULT.

...SEEMS TO
HAVE TAKEN
HIM TO A
PLACE MOST
BIZARRE.

AAH!
USING MY
POWER
REALLY
WORKS UP
AN APPE-
TITE!

I
WONDER
WHAT'S
ON THE
MENU THIS
MORNING.







I'M
DOING
WELL.

I'VE
MANAGED
TO MOVE
INTO MY
NEW
PLACE.

DEAR
HASE,



I'VE FINALLY
TAKEN THE
FIRST STEP
TOWARDS
BECOMING AN
INDEPENDENT
ADULT.

SINCE
LOSING MY
PARENTS
THREE YEARS
AGO,
AND
BECOMING
A BURDEN
ON MY
UNCLE'S
FAMILY,



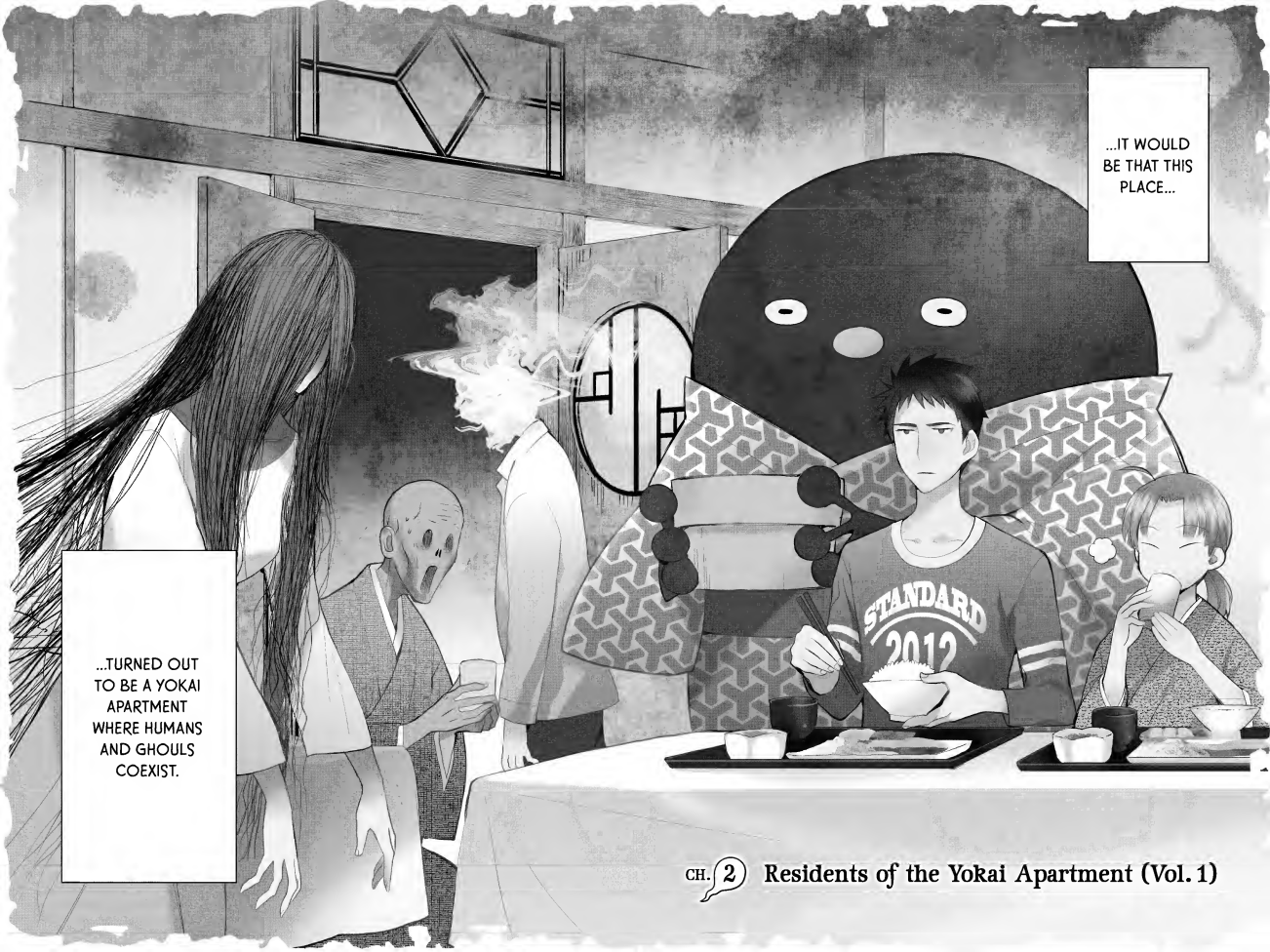
THEY'VE
WELCOMED
ME WITH
OPEN ARMS.

THE OTHER
RESIDENTS
ARE ALL
VERY KIND.



IF I HAD
TO NAME
ONE
PROBLEM...

HOW-
EVER,



...TURNED OUT
TO BE A YOKAI
APARTMENT
WHERE HUMANS
AND GHOULS
COEXIST.

...IT WOULD
BE THAT THIS
PLACE...



THIS IS
REIMEI
ISSHIKI, A
WRITER
AND
AESTHETE
OF UN-
KNOWN
AGE.

HE'S
HUMAN.

DOES
RURI-RURI'S
COOKING
NOT SUIT
YOUR
PALATE?

WHAT'S
WRONG,
YUSHI-
KUN?



YEAH?

TROMP

TROMP

NO...
THE FOOD
IS GOOD
...



I EAT
THREE
TIMES AS
MUCH
AS MOST
PEOPLE!

YUP!

I'M
SURPRISED
YOU CAN
PUT ALL
THAT AWAY...

SUPPOSEDLY
HUMAN...



YOU
HAVE TO
EAT UP AND
BUILD YOUR
STRENGTH!

YOU OKAY,
YUSHI-KUN?
SCHOOL'S
GONNA START
SOON!

THIS IS
AKINE
KUGA.

SUPPOSEDLY,
SHE'S A
HUMAN
EXORCIST.





...ARE
ALSO
GHOSTS.



AND
THESE
GUYS...



...



THEY'RE
GHOULS...
RIGHT?

TOO
CUTE...



I HAVE
NO IDEA
WHAT
SHE'S
TALKING
ABOUT.



THAT'S
WHY YOU
CAN SEE AND
TOUCH THINGS
YOU NORMALLY
WOULDN'T BE
ABLE TO.

THE ROAD
TO OTHER
DIMENSIONS IS
ALSO OPEN HERE,
WITH MULTIPLE
DIMENSIONS PILED
UP ON TOP OF
EACH OTHER AND
PHASE-SHIFT IN
EFFECT, SO...

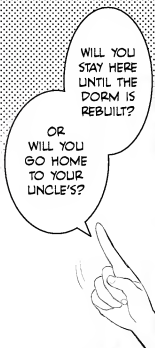
WONDERING
HOW YOU
CAN TOUCH
GHOSTS?

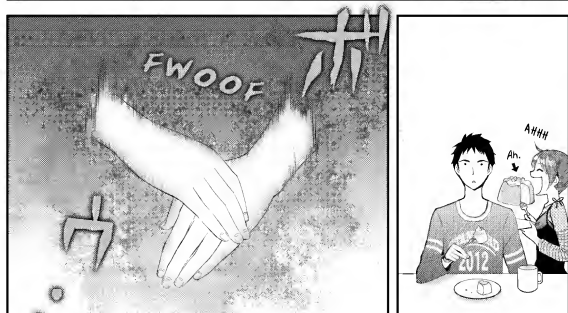
THIS
APARTMENT
BUILDING
WAS BUILT
ON A SPECIAL
FIELD WHERE
SPIRITUAL
ENERGY IS
INCREDIBLY
STABLE.

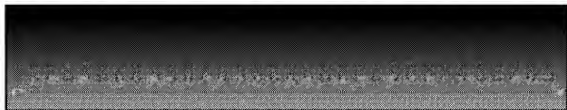
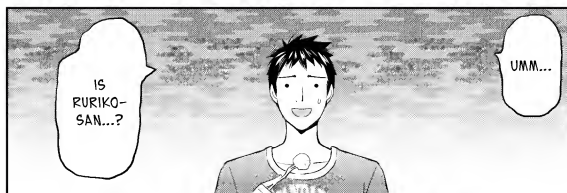


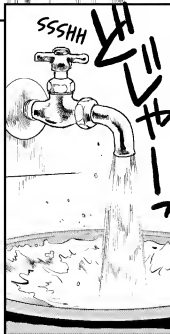














WHOOSH

!!

SHOEP



LAY
IT ON
YOURS
TRULY!

BA-DOOM!

L

I HAVE
JUST THE
THING
FOR YOU!

UMM...

SORRY

...

HAVING
A LITTLE
RELATION-
SHIP
TROUBLE?

WHO
ARE
YOU?

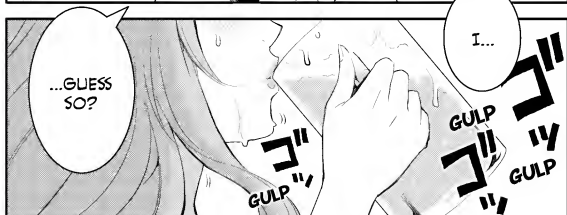
!!
!!
SSHHH

















WHOOOSH

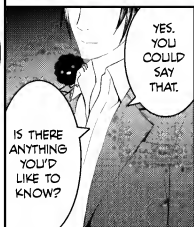


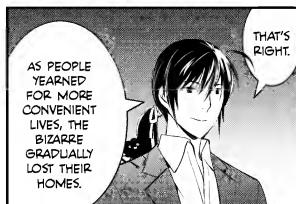
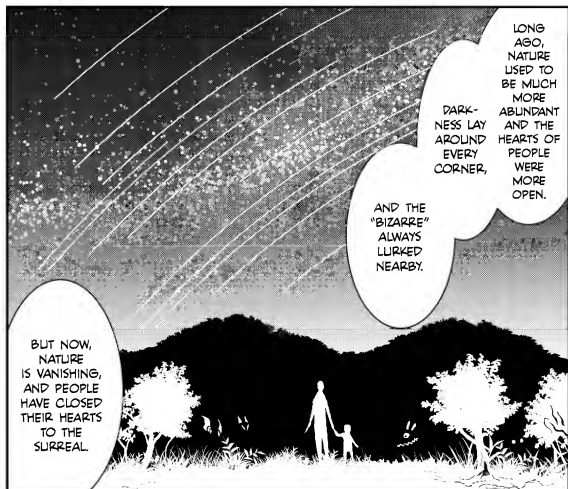




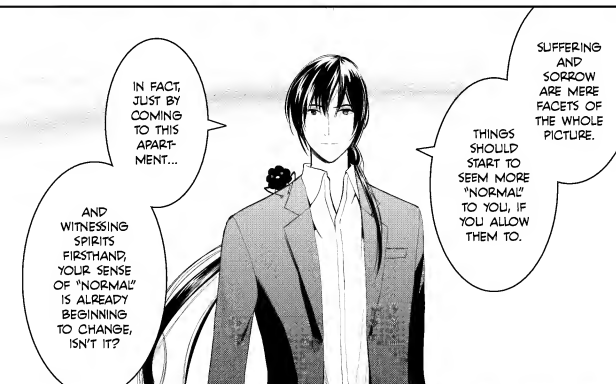


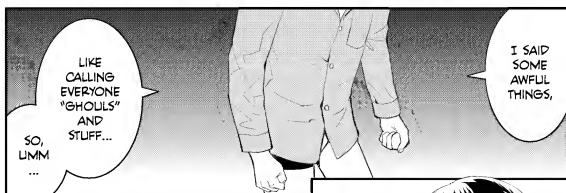




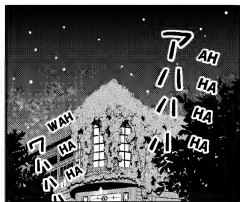












YOU
SHOULD
DROP BY
SOMETIME.

AT ANY
RATE, I'M
ENJOYING
MYSELF WELL
ENOUGH.









 **Elegant Yokai**
Apartment Life







...ISN'T
YOUR
REAL
NAME?

HUH?
YOU MEAN
AKINE
KUGA...

...HAVE YOU
BEEN ABLE TO
SEE GHOSTS
SINCE YOU
WERE LITTLE?

PSYCHIC
POWERS?
SO,
LIKE...

THAT'S
WHY I ALWAYS
THOUGHT IT
WAS NORMAL
TO BE ABLE
TO SEE
SPIRITS.

MMM.
BOTH MY
PARENTS
COULD, SO
I GUESS
IT'S IN MY
BLOOD.

"NORMAL,"
HUH?

UH-HUH!
WE EXORCISTS
KEEP OUR
TRUE
IDENTITIES
A SECRET.

WHAT I
USE IS THE
KUGA SHIN-
RENJUTSU.

IT'S A
SCHOOL
DEVOTED
TO
SPIRITUAL
TRAINING.





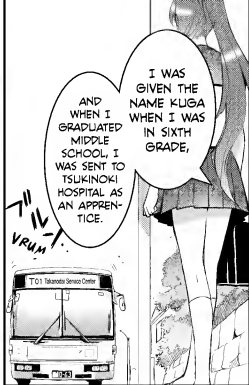
OFFICIAL-
LY, IT'S A
REGULAR
OLD
HOSPITAL,
THOUGH.

YEP. A
HOSPITAL
FOR
YOKAI.

See ya.



WHAT?
THEN
IS THAT
HOSPITAL
...



AND
WHEN I
GRADUATED
MIDDLE
SCHOOL, I
WAS SENT TO
TSUKINOKI
HOSPITAL AS
AN APPREN-
TICE.

I WAS
GIVEN THE
NAME KUGA
WHEN I WAS
IN SIXTH
GRADE,



WHOA...

...



HEY,
INABA!



AND HAVE
BEGUN TO
ENJOY A
"NORMAL"
HIGH-
SCHOOL
LIFE...

SUMMER.

...FULL OF
STUDYING
AND CLUB
ACTIVITIES.

I'VE FINALLY
SETTLED IN
AT THE YOKAI
APARTMENT,





...ACCORD-
ING TO
RYU-SAN.

IT IS THE
FOLLY OF
MANKIND
TOWARDS
OUTLAWS.

APPARENTLY
...

...ACCORD-
ING TO
RYU-SAN.

IT IS THE
FOLLY OF
MANKIND
TOWARDS
OUTLAWS.

APPARENTLY
...

...ACCORD-
ING TO
RYU-SAN.

IT IS THE
FOLLY OF
MANKIND
TOWARDS
OUTLAWS.

APPARENTLY
...

BUT TAKENAKA DOESN'T SEEM EXTRAORDINARY TO ME.

...BY A SERIES OF PEOPLE BREAKING THE MOULD.

HE TOLD ME ABOUT ALL SORTS OF THINGS LIKE HUMANITY'S DESTRUCTIVE NATURE, AND HOW HISTORY HAS BEEN BUILT...

BUT TAKENAKA DOESN'T SEEM EXTRAORDINARY TO ME.

...BY A SERIES OF PEOPLE BREAKING THE MOULD.

HE TOLD ME ABOUT ALL SORTS OF THINGS LIKE HUMANITY'S DESTRUCTIVE NATURE, AND HOW HISTORY HAS BEEN BUILT...

BUT TAKENAKA DOESN'T SEEM EXTRAORDINARY TO ME.

...BY A SERIES OF PEOPLE BREAKING THE MOULD.

HE TOLD ME ABOUT ALL SORTS OF THINGS LIKE HUMANITY'S DESTRUCTIVE NATURE, AND HOW HISTORY HAS BEEN BUILT...

YOU'RE GOING TO CLUB, RIGHT? C'MON.

TASHIRO!

HEY, INABA-KUN!

DANG

キーン

DING

コン

IN THE END...

...HE SKIPPED ALL DAY.

クワッ

クワッ

DONG

Panel 1:

- Boy (back view): YOU'RE GOING TO CLUB, RIGHT? C'MON.
- Girl 1 (waving): TASHIRO!
- Girl 2 (waving): HEY, INABA-KUN!

Panel 2:

- Boy (at desk): ...HE SKIPPED ALL DAY.
- Sound effects: DANG, キーン, DING, コーン, DONG, COFFIN, COFFIN.
- Bubble: IN THE END...

PANEL 1

YOU'RE GOING TO CLUB, RIGHT? C'MON.

TASHIRO!

HEY, INABA-KUN!

PANEL 2

DANG

Kーン

IN THE END...

DING

...HE SKIPPED ALL DAY.

丁 9 CLUE

丁 9 CLUE

ドン

PANEL 1

YOU'RE GOING TO CLUB, RIGHT? C'MON.

TASHIRO!

HEY, INABA-KUN!

PANEL 2

DANG

Kーン

IN THE END...

DING

キーン

...HE SKIPPED ALL DAY.

丁 9 CLACK

丁 9 CLACK

DONG

コーン

DONG

PANEL 1

YOU'RE GOING TO CLUB, RIGHT? C'MON.

TASHIRO!

HEY, INABA-KUN!

PANEL 2

DANG

Kーン

IN THE END...

DING

...HE SKIPPED ALL DAY.

丁 9 CLACK

丁 9 CLACK

DONG



MAYBE
I DID.

I WAS SO
ANXIOUS
ABOUT
EVERY-
THING...

MY
WORLD WAS
TURNED
UPSIDE-
DOWN
AFTER MY
PARENTS
DIED.

INABA'S
PRETTY
GLOOMY,
HUH?

HE'S SO
ANTI-
SOCIAL.

...THAT I
STOPPED
BEING ABLE
TO SMILE
FROM THE
BOTTOM
OF MY
HEART.

THE
FACT THAT
PEOPLE
TALK TO
ME NOW...

BUT SINCE
MOVING TO
THE YOKAI
APARTMENT
THREE
MONTHS
AGO,

PREZ English Club
Cultural Exchange!
Barbecue
< DO YOU
LIKE MEAT? >

HA

HA

HA

HA

キヤ
KYA



FWIP



WHAT
THE?!

WH-











**IT
HURTS!
HELP,
INABA-
KUN!**

**TASHI-
RO!**

**I
KNEW
...**

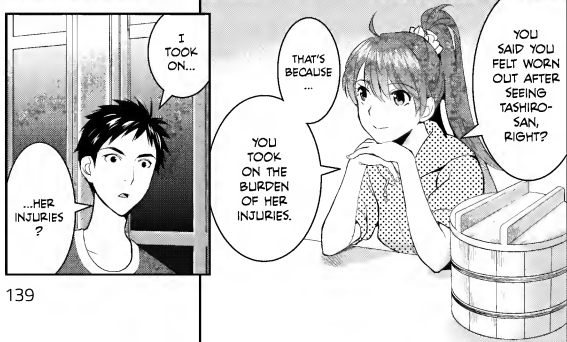
**I
KNEW
SOME-
THING
WAS
OFF,
BUT
I...**













LET ME
EXPLAIN.



THIS IS A
METHOD COM-
MONLY USED
IN SPIRITUAL
MEDICINE THAT
INVOLVES
SYNCHRONIZING
WITH THE OTHER
PERSON.

THINK OF
THE WATER
IN THIS GLASS
AS DAMAGE
INFLECTED TO
THE BODY.



AS
FOR THE
DAMAGE
THAT'S
BEEN
TRANS-
FERRED
...

WITH THE
DAMAGE
GONE,
THIS BODY
CAN BE
TREATED.



FIRST, WE
"TRANSFER"
THE
DAMAGE
...

...TO A
STRONGER
BODY.





THAT'S
GOOD.

I MEAN,
SPIRITUAL
POWERS?

I SEE...



NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT!

IT'S
JUST THAT
NUMBER OF
COINCIDENCES
PILED UP AND
TRIPPED YOUR
SENSOR.

SLAP



THAT KIND
OF POWER
WOULD
JUST BE A
NUISANCE.

HERE I
AM TRYING
TO LIVE A
NORMAL
LIFE.



...TO KNOW
I HELPED
SOMEONE.

WELL, IT
DOESN'T
FEEL BAD...





HUH?

YOU
REALLY
SAVED
ME,
INABA-
KUN!



I KNOW,
RIGHT? IT'S
A GOOD
THING
YOU WERE
THERE!



HUH...
THAT'S
PRETTY
LUCKY.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I
DIDN'T
DO
ANY-
THING
...

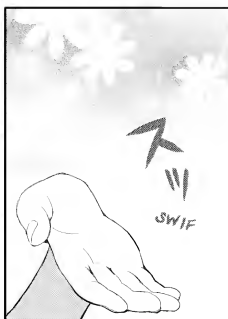


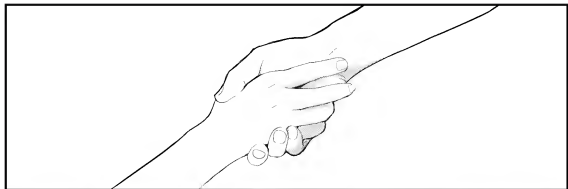
AT THE
TIME, I WAS
IN SO MUCH
PAIN THAT I
THOUGHT I
WAS GOING
TO DIE.

BUT
WHEN I
SAW YOUR
FACE, THE
PAIN JUST
MELTED
AWAY...

Must've
been
rough.







IS
THIS?

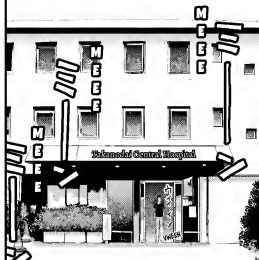
WHAT...

I FEEL
SO WARM
...

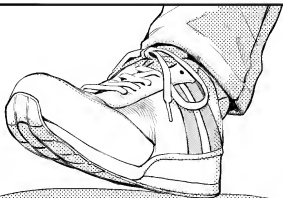


OH, I SEE.
THIS IS...

...THE
JOY OF
BEING
ALIVE.



I'M IN THE
MIDDLE OF
CHANGING.



RIGHT
NOW,

INTO
SOME-
THING...

...COM-
PLETELY
DIFFERENT.





SUMMER
BREAK.

BETWEEN
WORKING
AT THE
SHIPPING
COMPANY,

**HURRY
IT UP!
WE'VE
GOT
CUSTOM-
ERS
WAIT-
ING!**

I STILL
HAVE TO
SEND
THESE
THREE
OUT!

J-JUST A
SECOND!

**INABA!
HAS XX-
SAN'S
CHUGEN*
GIFT BEEN
SHIPPED
YET?**

* Chugen: An event taking place during the Bon festival on July 15th when people send gifts to superiors and acquaintances.

**WOULD
YOU GUYS
QUIT STUFF-
ING YOUR
FACES AND
GIVE ME A
HAND?!**

Discharged
(from the
hospital).

**INABA-
KUN!
WE'RE
RUNNING
LOW ON
MEAT
OVER
HERE!**

AND
PARTICIPATING
IN THE
ENGLISH
CLUB,

IT WAS A
DEEPLY
FULFILLING
VACATION.

は
AHH

NOM
NOM
NOM

SSSHHH

SWEAT

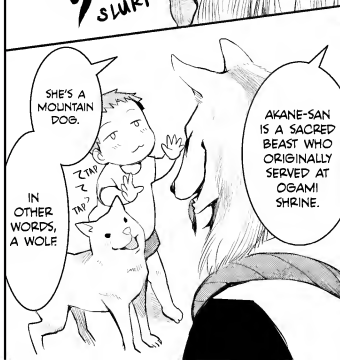














...TO A
YOUNG,
UNMARRIED
WOMAN.

KURI WAS
BORN...



WHY
IS IT
ALWAYS
ME?

WHAT
DID I
DO TO
DESERVE
THIS?



GO
HOME!

WHY
?!

YOU SAID
YOU'D
MARRY ME
IF I GOT
PREGNANT!

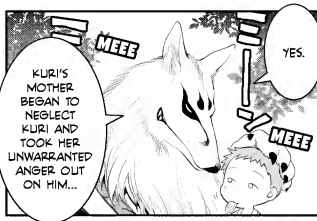
SHUT
UP!



IF IT
WEREN'T
FOR
YOU, I...

SHUT
UP...!





BECAUSE
HE HAD
NEVER
ONCE
RECEIVED
HIS
MOTHER'S
LOVE,

AT HIS
TENDER
AGE, HE
KNEW NOT
WHAT ELSE
TO DO...



BEFORE
LONG,

KURI
BECAME
A MUTE,
EXPRESSION-
LESS
CHILD.

...THE
STRAY DOG,
SHIRO,
TOOK TO
GIVING
KURI THE
WARMTH
AND CARE
HE SO
DESPERATELY
NEEDED.

THAT
WAS
WHEN
...



SPECIES
IS OF
LITTLE
IMPORT.

WHEN
ONE
CONSIDERS
SOME-
THING
PRECIOUS,

NAY.

WAS IT
BECAUSE
SHIRO
WAS
FEMALE?

IN A FIT
OF HIS
MOTHER'S
RAGE,
KURI WAS
...

BUT
THEN
ONE
DAY,



...AND WAS
BEATEN TO
DEATH BY
PASSERSBY
WHO
HEARD THE
COMMOTION.



SHIRO
MAULED
THE
MOTHER'S
THROAT...

...AND
TOOK THE
BEATING
UNTIL DEATH
OVERCAME
HER.



SHIRO
MERELY
LAY
THERE...

...SO
THAT THE
INFANT'S
SOUL
WOULD
NOT GET
LOST.



SHE CHOSE
DEATH IN
AN ATTEMPT
TO PROTECT
HIM...

SHIRO
COULDN'T
ABANDON
THE
DEPARTED
KURI.



UN-
FORTU-
NATELY,

THAT
STILL WAS
NOT THE
END.

KURI'S
MOTHER
CONTINUED
TO PURSUE
HIM.

EVEN
IN
DEATH,





HOWEVER,
OGAMI'S
RESPONSE
WAS...

SEEKING
HELP, SHIRO
BROUGHT
KURI TO
OGAMI,
GOD OF
CANINES.





OGAMI-SAMA
ATTEMPTED
TO DESTROY
KURI AND
SHIRO.

"KURI'S
SOUL HAS
ALREADY
BEEN
TAINTED
BY HIS
MOTHER."

PLEASE
WAIT,
MY
LORD!

ANGERED
THAT HIS
SACRED
TERRITORY
HAD BEEN
SULLIED,

OGAMI-SAMA
LISTENED
TO MY
SELFISH
REQUEST.

HAVING
JUST LOST
A CHILD
OF MY
OWN, I
WANTED
TO DO
ANYTHING
I COULD
FOR THEM.

AT THE TIME,
I BELIEVED
THAT WHAT
KURI NEEDED
MORE THAN
ANYTHING
WAS THE LOVE
OF FELLOW
HUMANS.

AND SO,
I LEFT
KURI AND
SHIRO WITH
KOTOBUKI
MANOR.





...HOW MUCH
REGRET MY
PARENTS HAD
TO HAVE FELT
FOR SUDDENLY
DYING...

AND
LEAVING
THEIR
ONLY
CHILD
BEHIND.

I CAN'T
IMAGINE
...

THAT'S
JUST...

...SO
SELFISH!

GRIP

IS THAT
WHY SHE
THOUGHT SHE
COULD TREAT
HER CHILD
HOWEVER SHE
WANTED TO?

BECAUSE
SHE WAS HIS
MOTHER?

BECAUSE
IT WAS HARD
FOR HER?





I ASKED
THEM TO
LET ME
LEAVE EARLY
TODAY.

DR.
FUJIYUKI
GAVE
ME THE
OKAY.



AAH!

I KNEW
AKANE-
SAN WAS
HERE!

AKINE-
CHAN!
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO WORK?



AND MY
SPIRITUAL
TRAINING
MASTER.

THE
HEAD YOKAI
DOCTOR AT
TSUKINOKI
HOSPITAL,

DR.
FUJIYUKI?



ERR...

WHAT
ARE YOU
GONNA
DO?



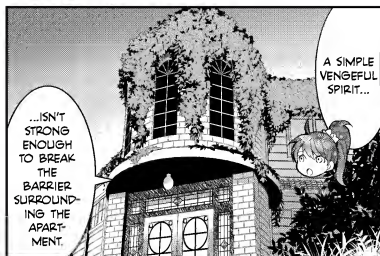
WOO-
HOO!

IT'S TIME
WE PREPARE
TO FEND
OFF THE
VENGEFUL
SPIRIT.

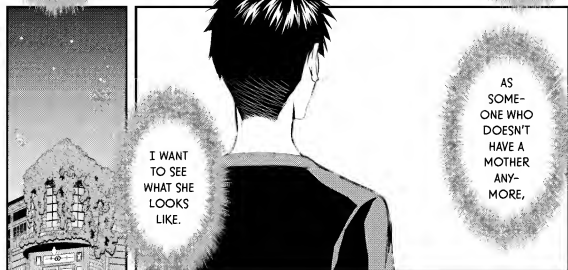
BUST
OUT
THE
SAKE,
RURI-
KO-
CHAN!

THAT
MAKES
EVERYONE!
AKINE,
TAKE CARE
OF KURI,
PLEASE.

CLAP









DON'T
GO TOO
HARD OR
IT'LL BITE
YOU IN
THE ASS
LATER.

Y-YES!
IT'S DELI-
CIOUS!

ARE YOU
EATING,
YUSHI-
KUN?



WITH YOUR TEN
PALE BATONS, YOU
WEAVE A MELODY SO
DIVINE IT INSPIRES THE
SAME WONDER AND
AMAZEMENT AS THE
HEAVENLY SPHERES,
ARACHNE!

WAY
TO GO,
RURIKO-
CHAN!

NOM
NOM

NOM



AKANE-
SAMA IS A
SERVANT OF
OUR PATRON
DEITY.

PHIEW.
MIGHTY
NICE OF THE
NEIGHBOR-
HOOD DOGS
TO BRING BY
THIS STUFF.

IT'S
ONLY NATURAL
THAT WE SAY
HELLO.

This
venison
is great.





* Practitioners of *onmyodo*, a Japanese mix of science and mysticism.



SWOOSH



SO HE SENT OVER A SHIKI INSTEAD.

IT LOOKS LIKE RYU-SAN WON'T MAKE IT TODAY,

IT'S A SPIRIT THAT MOVES ACCORDING TO THE SUMMONER'S WILL.



LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF AN ACTION MANGA?

Ooo BAP Hey!

WHOA!

HE FIGHTS SOMETIMES, TOO.





SKEFF

SHE'S
HERE!

GLARE

RSTL

A-

AKANE-
SAN...?

RSTL

RSTL



KURI'S...



HERE?



...MOTHER?



YOU
MEAN...



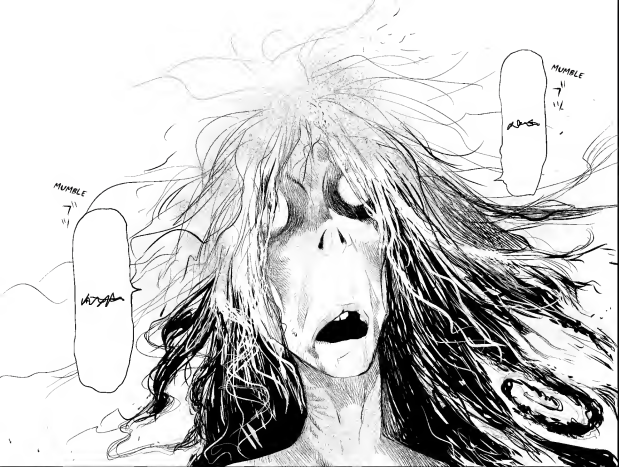
...KURI'S...

...MOTHER?

PLAP
KA...



CH. 5 Kuri and Shiro (Vol. 2)







BEGONE,

BOOM

YOU
WRETCHED
DISGRACE
OF A
WOMAN!

FLOP



**YOUR
PUNISH-
MENT IS
TO WAL-
LOW IN
DESPAIR.
NEVER
KNOWING
LOVE!**

**BEGONE
THIS
INSTANT!**



DESPITE
THAT, HER
ATTACH-
MENT TO
KURI STILL
REMAINS.

SHE
DOESN'T
EVEN
KNOW WHO
SHE IS OR
WHY SHE'S
WANDERING
THE LAND.

APPARENTLY,
SHE DOESN'T
HAVE
ANYTHING
RESEMBLING
HUMAN
THOUGHTS
OF FEELINGS
ANYMORE.

IT IS
THEIR
BOND AS
MOTHER
AND
CHILD...

...

THAT'S
ALL.

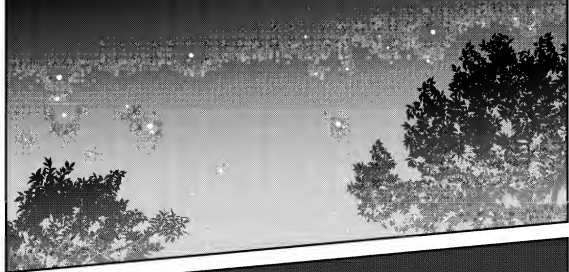
THAT'S...
ALL?

HUH...

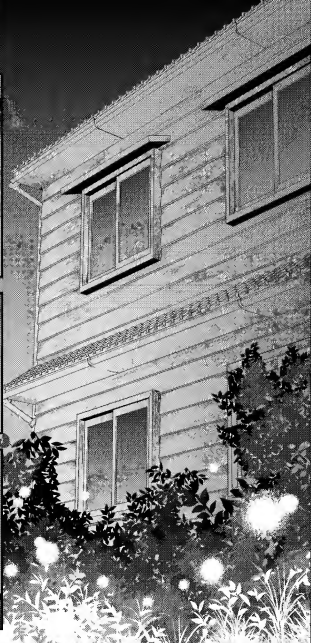
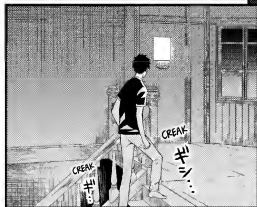
ハ
ア

zOOSH

A
A
A
A
A
A
A
H









YET
SHE STILL
LONGED
FOR HER
OWN
CHILD.

THAT
WOMAN
LOST EVERY-
THING THAT
MADE HER
HUMAN.



...THOSE
FEELINGS
ARE
TWISTED.

BUT...

IT'S JUST
SO SAD TO
THINK THAT...



DUE
TO THEIR
MIRACULOUS
BONDS AS
MOTHER AND
CHILD,

SHE AND
KURI ARE
DEFINITELY
CONNECTED.



THE IDEA
THAT THOSE
FEELINGS
WON'T DO
HER CHILD
ANY GOOD



DESPITE
BEING STRUCK
DOWN BY
AKANE-SAN'S
LIGHTNING...

SHE'LL
PROBABLY
COME TIME
AND TIME
AGAIN.



...SHE'LL
STILL
COME TO
KILL HER
CHILD.

...AND
HAVING
HER BODY
TORN TO
SHREDS...

...IS HEART-
BREAKING!



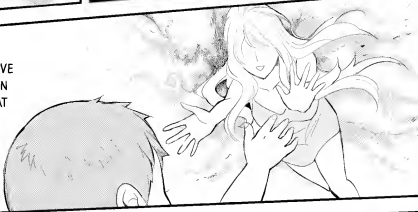
BUT IT
WAS HER
FEELINGS
TOWARD
KURI...

...THAT
MADE HER
THAT WAY.

AND
TERRIFY-
ING.

SHE'S
HIDEOUS,

PITIFUL,



...NO LOVE
MIXED IN
THERE AT
ALL?

COULD
THERE
REALLY
BE...

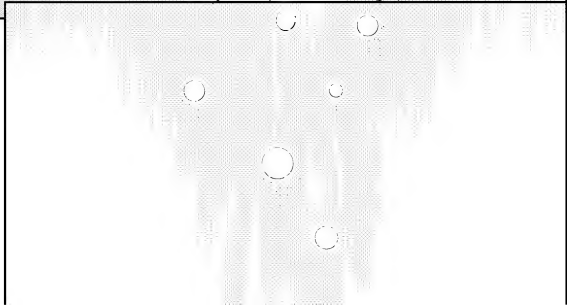
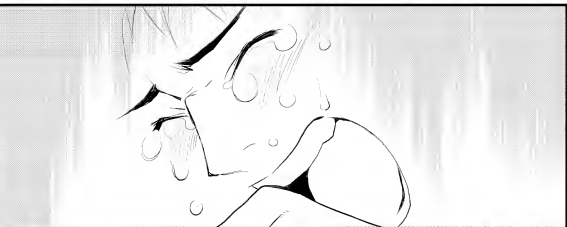


IF EVEN
ONLY THE
SLIGHTEST
BIT...

I WANT
THERE
TO BE.







MY
PARENTS
AND HASE
WERE
THERE.

THAT
NIGHT.

I HAD A
DREAM.

...WE WERE
SMILING...

JUST
THAT...

I DON'T
REMEMBER
WHAT WE
TALKED
ABOUT.

...THE
WHOLE
TIME.

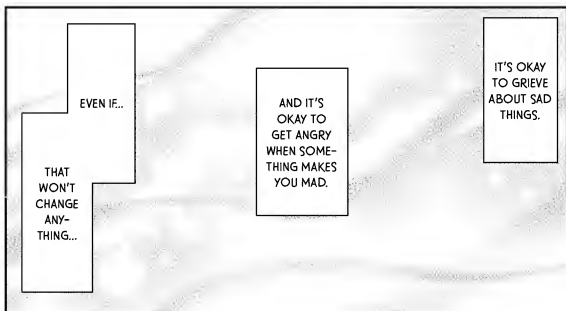
HNH...









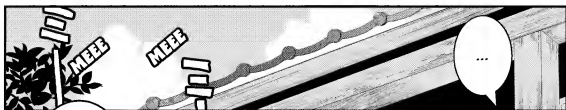




...MY WORLD
WILL OPEN UP.

...I'M
SURE
THAT BY
DOING
SO...





* A jelly-like confection made from bracken starch and covered in roasted soybean flour.





TO BE CONTINUED IN 'ELEGANT YOKAI APARTMENT LIFE' VOLUME TWO.

THE SETTING OF YOKAI APARTMENT

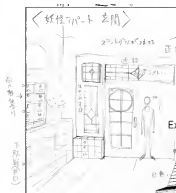
I'd like to show you a little behind-the-scenes footage of how life in the yokai apartment full of quirky residents came to be!

The making of Kotobuki Manor



2Fの窓は細かく
内装は描く
「梅亭」
In the comic version of *Elegant Yokai Apartment Life*, I use CG to make the building and rooms in parts of the background. However I focus a lot on composition and balancing impact and the background's relation to the characters, so I'll tinker with angles in every panel and redraw stuff a lot. For 2D art, drawing it out by hand in the end makes for a good effect.

Early sketches of the exterior (Parts differ to the present).



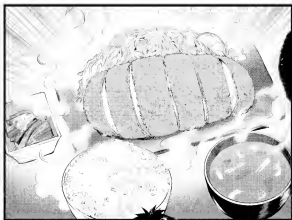
Model

Exterior modeled with CG.

Make a pass with the fish lens filter.



Add ivy and texture and complete.



Ruriko-san's Cooking

An unsung hero?!
I go all out to make the food that appears look as delicious as possible.

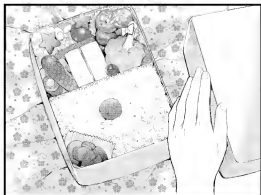


Yushi's welcoming dinner is a favorite of all boys: *tonkatsu* served with a heaping salad and side dish of sesame-topped sansho pepper. I drew it to look extra crunchy.

A chocolate cake adorably decorated to please the gluttonous Akine-chan.



A lunch composed of chicken, Vienna sausage, omelettes and salad. I added carrot slices cut into stars to make it seem like she really went all-out.



▲ Here, we have stone-roasted soba noodles with plenty of summer vegetables and seafood, as well as loach stew with slivered burdock root and egg. Grilled eggplant coated with miso, sea bream sashimi... I got hungry drawing this one.

◀ I went all-out for this feast featuring Akane-san. Charcoal-grilled summer vegetables, salted grilled sweetfish, sesame tofu. The venison is served raw with mild miso... Everything is served over bamboo leaves on large dishes with florets as garnishes!

Hase-kun's Elegant Friendship

HE'S A
SMART BOY
FROM A
WELL-OFF
FAMILY.



HASE-KUN
HAS BEEN
YUSHI-KUN'S
FRIEND
SINCE THIRD
GRADE.

HASE-KUN
HAS ALWAYS
BEEN THERE
FOR HIM
IN THE
SUBTLEST
OF WAYS.



FOR
REAL?

MY
TREAT.

NAH,
I'M
BROKE.

LET'S
GET
SOME
GYOZA,
TOO.

COOL,
THANKS.

OH,
YEAH. THIS
BOOK WAS
REALLY
GOOD. YOU
SHOULD
READ IT.

EVER
SINCE
YUSHI-
KUN'S
PARENTS
PASSED
AWAY,

MAN,
SAME
CLASS
AGAIN!
CRAZY!

ONE
YEAR
LATER



Outgrew
his shirt.

YO!
LOOKS
LIKE WE'RE
CLASS-
MATES
AGAIN!

SECOND
YEAR OF
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



HE
PROBABLY
DOESN'T
WANT
TO ASK
FOR NEW
CLOTHES.

And he
can't work
with tests
coming up...

SINCE
HE'S
STAYING
WITH HIS
UNCLE'S
FAMILY
NOW,

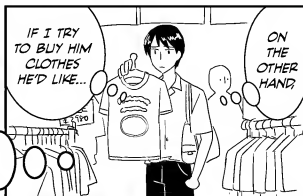
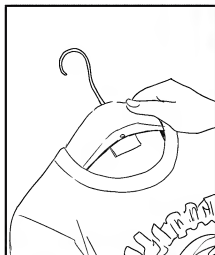


CHATTER

CHATTER

Y'KNOW,
HE ALWAYS
WEARS
THE SAME
CLOTHES...





THUS, THEIR FRIENDSHIP CONTINUES.

Elegant Yokai Apartment Life 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Waka Miyama

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